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A.—(a) Both the Taluk Board and the District Board passed resolutions in June and July 1920 respectively in favour of the division of the Taluk Board into three boards. The Government have no information whether the resolutions were passed unanimously.

(b) & (c) Yes.

(d) The matter is engaging the attention of the Government.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"May I know at what stage the matter now is, with reference to clause (d)?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"The matter is engaging the attention of the Government. That is the stage to which it has got."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—"Does the hon. the Minister recognize that the matter has been engaging the attention of the Government for the last seven years, and does he think that that time is not enough?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I have not been in charge of this portfolio for the last seven years."

Control of the inspecting staff by taluk boards.

*764 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received suggestions to the effect that in the interests of advancement and better management of elementary education it is necessary to place the inspecting staff under the control of taluk boards which manage the institutions; and

(b) whether he will call for opinions of taluk boards and others on the above suggestions?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The Government do not support the idea of placing the inspecting staff under the control of local bodies. They do not propose to call for the opinions of taluk boards and others on the suggestion.

Bifurcation of the Tindivanam Taluk Board.

*765 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received the recommendations of the District Board of South Arcot regarding the bifurcation of the Tindivanam Taluk Board; and

(b) whether the Government has passed any orders on the question of bifurcation of the Tindivanam Taluk Board and whether they will place a copy of the recommendations of the District Board of South Arcot and the orders of the Government thereon, if any, on the table?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The resolution of the District Board and the Government Order thereon are laid on the table.[a]

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 393 infra.

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Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed:—"Am I to understand from the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government that he does not propose to bifurcate the Tindivanam Taluk Board in view of the question of the abolition of the taluk board itself?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"There is no question of the bifurcation of the taluk board at present. Pending the introduction of the new Local Boards Act, this matter has been dropped."

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar:—"May I ask whether there is any proposal now engaging the attention of Government to abolish the taluk boards altogether?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"Yes, that is now engaging the attention of Government. I may also say for my hon. Friend's benefit that the District Board of South Arcot was against the bifurcation of the Tindivanam Taluk Board."

Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar:—"May I ask him to state whether it is the policy of the Government to defer the bifurcation pending determination of the larger question, namely, the abolition of the taluk boards?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"That is so, Sir."

Orders of the Ministry from the 1st April to 4th June in connexion with the Salem District Board President's selection.

* 766 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House the several orders passed by the Ministry in connexion with the Salem District Board President's election from the 1st of April to the 4th of June 1927?

A.—The Government are not prepared to place the orders on the subject on the table of the House.

* Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"May I ask the hon. the Minister whether there is anything confidential in these orders and why the Government are not prepared to place the orders on the table of the House."

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"As the answer says, the Government are not prepared to place the orders on the subject on the table of the House."

Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"That is exactly the reason, Sir, why I want an answer from my friend if he is willing to answer the question. My question is whether there is anything confidential in those orders relating to the election of the President of the Salem District Board which is certainly a matter of public importants which makes the Government unwilling to place them on the table of the House?"

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"There are some confidential matters, and, as I have said before, I am not prepared to place them on the table."

Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar:—"Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to place at least those orders which are not confidential on the table?"